The People.

VOL. VI —NO 50. NEW YORK, MARCH 14, 1897. PRICE 3 CENTS.

LABOR RECORD

of the Congress that Expired on last March 4.

PURE and SIMPLE WATERLOO.

"Bill No. 1"—Its Wonderful Experience—Erdman Arbitration Bill, Endorsed by All Parties, Yet Squelched—The "Comma Bill," ordered "Placed on the Calendar" When the Calendar Could no Longer be Reached—"Contempt" Pill—Phillips Bill, Mutilated and then Killed—Seamen's Bill.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.—The "labor record" of the Congress that has just expired must be a bitter disenchantment to all those that have pinned their salvation, not upon their own efforts, but upon what they can get by begging the capitalist politician.

Of the many labor bills introduced, only two passed, of these two, only one became a law. This synopsis would be comment enough. The bills that promoted capitalist jobs and capitalist interests came in and were put through by the scores, and became law without diffienlty; the bills that were claimed to be in the interest of the working class were crowded back and miscarried. Even if these two that passed Congress or the one that survived the Presidential scrutiny were really labor bills, the showing would be bad enough, and those who theorize upon the advisability of class-unconscious politics must find their theory once more pretty well shattered. But a closer scrutiny of some of the labor bills that were introduced, of the fate of those that indeed might have seemed beneficial for labor, of the nature of the one that passed Congress but was sat down upon by the President, and finally of the nature of the single, solitary one that did become law knocks the class-unconscious theory of politics into splinters and leaves the labor fakir element, whose existence depends upon the success of their stupid theory, chilled through to the very marrows.

BILL NO. 1.

First of all there was "Bill No. 1." This bill was one in favor of the postal railway employees. Much depended upon it for the employees. Every politician, who needs labor votes, had pledged himself to support it. The bill turned up in the previous Congress but it was crowded out "on account of the pressure of business," there being "so many other bills ahead of it on the Calendar." That was the excuse for its not passing then. In order to make certain its passage this time and prevent any other bill from getting ahead it, it was made "Bill No. 1" on the Calendar of this Congress. What more could be expected of "labor-loving" Congressmen? What completer refutation of the Socialist theory that labor can no longer get anything worth having from the capitalists? What better vindication of the "practical" methods of pure and simpledom? Being "Bill No. 1," this bill was bound to come up and of course pass.

Well—IT NEVER CAME UP! Safely perched at the head of the Calendar, it remained there in mocking solitude to the end, while the capitalist bills behind it jumped over its head and became law.

ERDMAN ARBITRATION BILL.

This bill was of much importance to the railroad employes in general. It affected the question of the employers' liability for the injuries suffered by the men; and what these injuries mean may be judged from the simple fact that almost as many engineers, trainmen, brakemen, firemen, and switchmen are either killed or mutilated every five years as there are engineers, trainmen, brakemen, firemen, and switchmen employed. In various ways this bill had long been before Congress, and somehow or other always miscarried. The excuses were numerous, the result was always the same. Thereupon the bill was taken by the men to the National Conventions of both old parties, and was ENDORSED BY BOTH. Now passage seemed assured—to those who still nurse the delusion that capitalist parties have anything in them for labor.

The bill was killed, despite the unanimous support of both the ruling parties!

EIGHT-HOUR, OR "COMMA" BILL.

This bill got the name of the "Comma Bill" because it turned upon the placing of a comma on the Federal Eight-hour law, recently passed. Its object was to bring all work performed for the Federal Government, whether through contractors or otherwise, within the 8-hour rule. Much depended upon it. The stone cutters, in fact the whole building trade, depended upon it. Its passage would at least offer a handle for labor demands that now can be and are avoided by the Government. In a manner, this bill was a sort of "last ditch" for the labor fakir brigade headed by Mr. Gompers. Upon it they staked their reputation with the workers, their influence with the politicians. They endorsed it in their national conventions, they announced its enactment into law as an assured fact, and they moved, not heaven and earth, but hell and sheol in its behalf.

On the evening of March 3, the day before the expiration of Congress, the bill was "reported," and, as the capitalist politicians meant to accentuate the contempt they entertain for labor, as represented by these fakir leaders, the bill was "ordered to be placed upon the Calendar." In other words, the session being about to expire, the bill was shelved.

HILL'S CONTEMPT BILL.

The treatment received by Debs justly infuriated the working class. This was a grand opportunity for the labor fakirs and the politicians to make capital for themselves. To teach the workers that it matters not what statute is on the statute books, so long as the capitalist class is in political power, the statutes will be interpreted and enforced in favor of the loafing and against the toiling class, would not do. The labor fakir and the politician would thereby be cutting the ground from under themselves. They could profit by the discontent of the workers only by claiming that all that was needed was to amend the law, and then, even if the capitalist class was in power, all would be well. Accordingly, Senator Hill, a notorious capitalist labor bamboozler and corruptionist, introduced a bill intended to prevent abuses by Judges under the pretence of "Contempt proceedings."

The bill was discussed, amended, reported backward and forward, and finally dumped!

These were the leading ones of the stack of labor bills that Congress sat down upon. Of the two it passed, one was the

PHILLIPS BILL.

Last week's issue of THE PEOPLE fully dealt with the merits of this bill. It was essentially a fakir's bill. It was not simply humbug, like the Hill Contempt bill; it was worse than that. It was nothing but a scheme to give a pension to the leading labor fakirs of the land. The pretence was to create a commission that should make recommendations to Congress in behalf of the toiling masses. The real object was to give a salary of $5,000 to several star fakirs, and minor salarjes to minor fakirs. These gentlemen are "bursted wide open"; the rank and file is falling away; dues don't come in. If left to themselves, the fakirs could no longer do for the capitalist class the dirty work of keeping the rank and file of the workers in ignorance, and leading them, like sheep, into the shambles of the capitalist parties regularly every election day. To do this dirty work they must enjoy leisure; the leisure they once enjoyed, through the dues they collected, through the selling of the labels to sweater bosses, and through other acts of treachery, are falling off terribly. The Phillips bill was intended to remedy this evil. Such a bill surely had unequaled opportunities.

Well, the capitalists thought the pensions demanded too high; they were almost halved. On the last night of Congress, a goodly delegation of these fakirs being present in the lobbies "representing labor," the bill was passed in a mutilated form and sent to the President. He, evidently, considered the pensions still too high, and vetoed the bill.

THE SEAMAN'S BILL

The one bill that was enacted into law was the "Seaman's bill." Whether this is really a labor victory or not may be judged from the circumstance that it EXPRESSLY JUSTIFIES FLOGGING.

Nominally, the flogging of sailors is abolished. From the debate on the bill it appears, however, that the practice is now re-introduced in a round about way. By this bill a captain can escape punishment for assaulting a sailor. This is the long and short of it.

The labor record of the Congress that just expired confirms the lesson that New Trade Unionism has been teaching. It is this:

In days gone by, the proletariat might have been able to gain something from the capitalist politicians; to-day they can gain nothing. The capitalist politician will ever hold the word of promise to the workers' ears and break it to their hearts.

The treatment received by all the labor bills that had something in them settles the question: the question is settled still more by noticing that the bill that came near becoming law was one intended to corrupt the workers; and finally, the question is settled still more completely by observing that the only "labor" bill that did become law is one that places a branch of workers in the disgraceful attitude of helpless flogees.

God helps those who help themselves. The working class must itself control the country's Legislatures, Executives and Judiciaries; nor can it do that without it places itself squarely upon the class-conscious platform of the proletariat and demands with the international Socialist movement of the working class nothing more and nothing less than the unconditional surrender of the capitalist class.

All else can only serve as fun for the exploiters of labor—the capitalist class and its filthy outposts the labor fakirs.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States against the Texas anti-trust law should teach much that is valuable for the guidance of those who earnestly desire to accomplish results, and who are too self-respecting to allow themselves to be used for cat's-paws.

The Federal Court's decision amounts to this: That the trust question is a national one, and can be settled only upon national lines.

Political schemers without end try to get up boomlets for themselves upon municipal platforms that pretend to be anti-monopolistic, and at the same time they carefully run away from any plan to introduce the same planks in State and national platforms. Without such planks all municipal "anti-monopoly" movements are the veriest fraud. The fate of the Texas anti-trust law points to that moral, and, in so far, has answered a useful purpose.

CHANGING LABELS.

Capitalism, Labeled "Cleveland," Continues Labeled "McKinley."

The Feverish Excitement Connected with the Inauguration of "Prosperity's Advance Agent" Affects only the Place Hunters and the Capitalist Schemers—The Wage-Earning Class Remains With its Nose to the Grindstone of Capitalism.

DAYTON, O., March 4.—"Le Roi est mort, vive le Roi!"

Evit Cleveland, enter McKinley. The scene changes. We have a new emperor and a new court.

To politicians, whether Democrat or Republican, it means much; it is their hope or their despair.

To deep schemers, who plot and plan for years in the dark to have a law passed or a measure taken which will enable them to rob their fellow citizens, the inauguration is an event of great importance and significance.

Not so to the man who earns his living as he goes along. His weal or woe depends not on the political but on the economic situation. The law of supply and demand governs prices and affects the results of his labor under a Republican administration just as under Democratic rule. Trusts will fix prices, destroy competition, and cut off men's means of livelihood under McKinley as under Cleveland. Great capital will continue to absorb small capital just as before. Department stores will keep on driving retailers out of business. New labor-saving machines will make men's labor unnecessary under Republican rule just as under Democratic. The more men offering their labor power for sale the lower wages will fall.

The tariff may be raised, but nothing that Mr. McKinley or his friends will do will enrich the mass of the people, and enable them to buy and consume the goods which now glut the market. The mass of the people must remain poor under McKinley as under Cleveland.

The economic conditions will not be changed. It is not intended to change them.

W. WATKINS.

A WOMAN

Lectures Presumptuous Men, and Tells them Some Truths.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8.—I attended a meeting of the Secular League held at Typographical Hall, Washington, D. C., the 28th of last February. A man named Foot, of England, read a paper on "Woman and Her Condition Under the Present System." He said a good deal about the new woman, and how she would surely "get there" at the rate of speed she was going at the present time. And yet I cannot for the life of me make out just what he meant by the "getting there" part of it.

Now, there were old men and young men at that meeting. But when it came to talk about woman and "their rights," as they call them, they all had the same self-satisfied air about them that you will find in nine out of every ten men that you meet.

The way they have of treating the subject of woman looks as though she was one of the lower order of animals, who, by her contact with that grand and noble creature, man, was just learning to raise herself above the brutes of creation.

One man at the meeting spoke about woman never reaching the same level as man in any particular. She had always been inferior to man, and he thought that while she may in the future come near being the man's equal, still, she could never really reach the same standard as man. Poor Woman!

But this is all waste of time, in my opinion, as far as the women are concerned. I know who a man will go to in case of sickness or trouble. If he don't go to his own mother or sister, he will go to some other fellow's sister or mother. It matters not how inferior she may be; then she is good enough to nurse him out of sickness or give him advice in his trouble. I was going to say sympathy, but there is no time for such foolishness in these days of "pulling the devil by the tail" just for a miserable existence.

I will give one of a large number of instances that happen every day to that inferior creature, woman. There is an establishment in this city run by a former wage slave, who is now able to keep slaves of his own. This is the way he treats those slaves: One of them, a woman, had been working for him for some time, and he had found no fault with her work—that was all right, but her dress did not suit him. His business with the "fleas," I mean the "lady fleas"—as he is costumer to this part of the inferior class (as I suppose they are looked on as such by the male "fleas," the same as we of the "dogs" are looked upon by the male of our kind). Well, as I said, his business had been growing for the last two years to such an extent by the help of the extra good slaves that he had been able to have an extra amount of good living and drinking. He drank like a fish, that was to keep his strength up; and was seized with a bad case of swelled head. So on this particular morning he did not like the looks of the dress this one-dollar a-day slave had on her back. He caught hold of her dress and pulled it around, and told her she was a disgrace to her sex, and that she ought to be ashamed

(Continued on Page 2.)

CLINCHED.

What the Worker Will Gain—Distribution of Work.

Comrade Jules Guesde, Being Questioned on these two Points in the French Chamber, Answers them Cogently Amid the Cheers of the Left and the Convulsive Protests of the Capitalist Delegates in the Center and Right of the Chamber.

WHAT THE WORKER WILL GAIN.

JULES GUESDE.—A capitalist speaker, solicitous, as all capitalists are, for the welfare of the working class, asked in this Chamber, What will the workingmen gain from a Socialist Commonwealth? What will they gain? Let me tell you:

They will cease to be proletarians, who can work, and, consequently, live, only when their labor is needed by the capitalists to knock off profit by. They will become their own masters, sovereigns economically as completely as they are sovereigns politically. They will live in a Social Republic instead of under a monarchy of the employers. They will themselves make their shop rules; they will themselves elect their foremen and directors (Disapproval from the Right; applause from the left), instead of, as to-day, having to submit to representatives imposed upon them from without. This is one of the gains.

Another result of the overthrow of Capitalism and the establishment of Socialism will be this: All the mechanical improvements, all the scientific discoveries, that to-day throw out of work men who have nothing to sell but their labor, would, under Socialism, serve to reduce the hours of work. Thus stoppages of work would no longer be the result of machinery; its result would be increased abundance and leisure. That is a second gain. (Applause from the Left).

Again, the statistics of manufactures in the United States show that the profits pocketed by the capitalist class are equal to the total sum of the wages paid to the working class; in other words that, after all expenses are deducted, the working class are plundered of fifty per cent. of their labor. It follows that, just as soon as the instruments of production shall have ceased to be private and have become the collective property of the working-class, the share of this class will be increased by the full share that now is pilfered from them by the capitalist class, to wit, 50 per cent. That is a third gain. (Applause from the Left: protests from the Right).

But there is still more. How many are not the useless expenses, how huge is not the waste that now accompanies the period of competition or of industrial anarchy that we are now traversing! How much energy is not squandered away in these competing factories that must now wrestle with each other! How great, consequently, will not be the economies in the Socialist Commonwealth, where industry will have been unified! (Applause from the extreme Left). Look around ye. To-day, the large factory compels the small one to shut down; the large industry kills the small one; the large bazars, those retail emporiums like the "Louvre" and the "Bon Marche" ruin the small shops. Why is this so? Because the general expenses of the large establishments can be distributed over an ever larger number of goods, and thus cheapen products below the point where the smaller establishment can carry on competition. For the same reason that these great establishments can reduce expenses, the Socialist Commonwealth would be all the more able to reduce them, and all these savings would go to increase the share of the workers. On this subject of expenses, I have left out of consideration the thousand and one useless outlays that competition carries in its wake—advertisements, special wagon deliveries, "bargains," all of which answer no useful social need whatever, and are intended solely to hunt and decoy customers, a practice that the capitalist speakers in this Chamber have, during this debate, stigmatized as "Jewish," but which, in fact, is nothing but an attribute of capitalist society. Is not this another gain? (Applause from the Left. A voice from the Right: "There is a good deal in that.")

All the millions of wealth, now held separate and exhausted by the most shameless jobbery and speculation, will likewise be added to the share of the workers, while to-day, on the contrary, the workingmen must feed not only the capitalist minority, but also to all manner of parasites upon that minority, such as the menials of both sexes who consume without producing ("Hear! Hear!" from the extreme Left). The turning of all these useless arms to productive labor will give no slight increase to the wealth of the nation. These are gains, positive and tangible, which the working class is discovering, and which it will know how to secure.

DISTRIBUTION OF WORK.

I wish now to turn to another point raised here—the distribution of work in the Socialist or Co-operative Commonwealth.

We have been asked: How will the less desirable and the positively disagreeable work of society be performed in the Socialist Commonwealth, and where would be found men to pursue the positively dangerous occupations?

That sort of work is geing done to-day; the men who perform it are found. We find them in the mines and other such places. I cannot well understand how they are to disappear when Socialism prevails; I can not see that the fact of their then receiving the whole of their product instead of the niggard wages they now get, or of their working six or seven hours instead of the twelve that they have to sweat through under capitalism will cause them to cease to exist. I do not understand the logic that claims that our miners, etc., will no longer be because a new social order raises their incomes, lowers their hours of work, and infinitely improves their condition. This objection cannot have been meant seriously.

"But," I may be told, and have been told, "to-day those men are there to be had, but later they won't be there to be had. In the measure in which the new social order brings forth new men, with superior intellectual powers, these men will dislike certain classes of work which to-day we find ready applicants for, because hunger compels them. (A voice from the Right: "And so it is!") I told you that argument would be made. It amounts to saying that the day when the lash of hunger shall cease to be, the workers in these industries will no longer be driven to that sort of work. Once you make that argument you must no longer prate about the "freedom of labor" being a pillar of your social system. Hunger, officiating as a dragoon, to fill the mines and factories demolishes your vaunted "freedom of labor." ("Hear! Hear!" from the Left; protests from the Right).

But apart from all that, you forget that the machine is here; it is improving rapidly; it is daily assuming the dangerous and disagreeable part of labor. Without falling into Utopianism, we can foresee the day in which human labor, in all departments, will consist mainly in superintendence.

But in the meantime, what of these dangerous occupations that have still to be performed by labor? They will be controlled by the law of supply and demand, stripped by the new social dispensation from its freedom-crushing features of to-day. To that law we shall resort for the distribution of work among the several and unequal branches of production.

Say that in the Socialist Commonwealth the workday is of six hours. A call will be issued for, say, field and mine laborers. If mine labor is considered extra hazardous or disagreeable, all applications will be for field work; none will apply for mine work. What would that indicate? That six hours underground work are not equal to six hours of work in the open air; and that, in order to enlist the necessary mine labor, the miners' work day must be reduced to five. (Violent interruptions from the Center and the Right). I am giving a serious answer to a serious question.

If a reduction to five hours is not enough to obtain for the mines the necessary forces, the fact would indicate that five hours underground are not yet equivalent to six above ground. By thus applying the law of supply and demand, the reduction can be carried on until the necessary quantity of labor is found, and when the supply exceeds the demand the hours may again be raised. Supply and demand will suffice, without violence, to effect that proper distribution of work that you imagined to be a problem of impossible solution. Thus work will be found for all who want to work, while those who can and won't work alone would have to be dealt with. (Protests from the Right and Center).

I am not surprised at your manifestations of dislike at such a prospect: you believe in sharing the product of labor, but you dislike to share the burden of work. But the class whom you have virtually kept from sharing the common patrimony of humanity will yet enforce the principle. In fact the modern issue may be summed up this way: "The working class demands that the capitalist class share the burden of production. ("Hear! Hear!" from the extreme Left; and also much laughter from the same benches, some voices crying out: "It will be a pretty sight." "They don't know how to work." "They only know how to shirk it.")

The returns from the Austrian elections are coming in in such way that we shall postpone an account of them until more fully informed. The difficulty in the case arises from the circumstance that in some places the elections are "direct," in others "indirect." This prevents a forecast of the strength of the Socialist delegation in the Parliament; furthermore, the elections are not all held on one day, but stretch over a month or more.

Nevertheless, from the figures that are in, it is evident that the Socialist vote is big, so big that it promises to be the biggest of all the contending parties.

A full report will be given when the returns are complete or substantially complete.

In Vienna the Socialist vote is 88,000—a mighty start.

The same old song comes now from Leadville, Colo. The great miners' strike is called off; the men surrender unconditionally.

Strikes, this among them, would not be really lost even if the men returned at the bosses' terms, provided the struggle is conducted intelligently. If the men struggle for the ultimate object of total emancipation, then a strike is a skirmish whose fate does not affect the issue, and out of which the soldiers merge with increased discipline.

If, however, a strike is conducted upon the senseless plan that pure and simple unions conduct theirs, then its loss is thorough going. To impute the loss of this strike to "lack of funds" is like imputing death to "lack of breath." The union leader who does the former is as unfit as the physician who does the latter.

"PRINCIPLE" No. 2

In the New Buncoing Party of the N. Y. Capitalist Class.

"EDUCATION."

Capitalism First Renders Hard the Acquirement of Education to the Working Class, and then Sets up an Educational Test for the Civil Service—Its Attempt to Keep all the Public Offices for Itself With the False Pretence of Wanting to Give every Citizen a Fair Chance.

The second "principle," upon which the newly proposed capitalist party for the Greater New York—the "Citizens' Union"—is to run, differs from the first "principle," taken up last week, in this: "Principle" No. 1 is a boomerang; "principle" No. 2 is a fraud. It demands the enforcement of the Civil Service tests to applicants for public office "so as to afford a fair chance to every citizen."

This sounds beautiful, and in proportion to the beauty of its sound it is fraudulent.

Who can pass the Civil Service examinations now imposed?

Those only who have enjoyed schooling.

Under the capitalist system, which is upheld by the promoters of the "Citizens' Union," illiteracy is a staple product. The capitalist class prevents in a number of ways the general acquirement of knowledge.

By reducing the wages of the breadwinning parents, capitalism deprives these of the means to enable their children to go through school, and even compels them to take their children out of school to earn something that will help the family to exist.

Nor is this all. Lavish in its expenditures for armories and the like, capitalism is niggardly in its appropriations for education. It is afraid of nothing so much as of education. In vetoing the immigration restriction bill, its then chief dignitary, Grover Cleveland, let the cat out of the bag by condemning the clause that demanded an educational test, and pointing out that the danger lay with the educated.

Our public schools are congested in the primary departments; the upper grades feel no such crowding. Most of the children of the working people have barely an opportunity to acquire the simplest rudiments of writing, reading and arithmetic. They are forced out of school by poverty, and in the avocations that they are thrust into for a living there is no chance for further development. They grow up utterly incapable of passing such examination as the Civil Service rules are now demanding.

That the Civil Service employees should not be an ignorant lot is certainly desirable; but if those who insist upon this are honest in their claim that their object is "to afford a fair chance to every citizen," they must start with a proposition to enable every citizen to be equipped with the education that will make his chance fair. To deprive the majority of the citizens of the opportunity to so equip themselves, and then to say their "chance is fair" is the height of perfidy. And the perfidy becomes all the more infamous because of its pretence to fairness.

The modern Civil Service rules are intended to give places to the sons of the property-holding class, who otherwise could not earn a living; these rules are intended to bar out the unhappy workers, whose opportunities to learn were consumed in the struggle, from early infancy, to get a bare living and support with the fleecings perpetrated upon them the very class that now seeks to monopolize the public offices.

The modern Civil Service rules illustrate admirably a characteristic of all criminals: they all try to profit by their own wrongs. After wrongfully depriving the workers from opportunities for an education, the capitalist class now sanctimoniously demands that only the educated shall have access to the public crib on the Civil Service list, and aided by the plausibility of their argument, they carry out this further conspiracy against the proletariat.

The "Citizens' Union" will rope in to its support only the schemers and the crooks. Those of the proletariat who showed their sense of Class-consciousness last November by casting their ballots for the Socialist Labor party, and those whose class-consciousness has since been awakened, will join in the condemnation of the fraud which this new party contemplates against the already shamefully defrauded workers. They will endorse the principle of promoting education, and thereby all the more condemn the social system that not only hinders the education of the masses, but seeks to turn this also into a weapon for the further subjugation of the workers. They will emphasize their views and attest their self-respect by plumping their votes for the party whose emblem is "Labor," and whose purpose is the overthrow of "Capitalism."

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York,

—EVERY SUNDAY.—

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS

Invariably in advance:

One year	$1.00
Six months	.50
Three months	.30

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office, on April 6th, 1891.

ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL NEW YORK CITY

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	**36,563**

The lord will enter into judgment with the elders of his people It is ye that have eaten up the vineyard; the spoils of he poor is in your houses; what mean ye that ye crush my people, and grind the faces of the poor? saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts.—

Isaiah.

ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRENCH COMMUNE.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by Mrs. JANE KEEP Washington, D. C.]

Hurrah for the men of seventy-one!
Hurrah for the men of to-day,
Who have taken the place of our honored dead
In the ranks that were broken in May!

Hurrah for the cause that is worth our best!
Hurrah for the flag that is red;
Which waves o'er our comrades in every clime!
Let us keep it on high until dead.

Hurrah for the Hammer and Arm so strong!
Hurrah for the fight without rest,
That is waged by our party, so fearless and true,
'Gainst the foes of the East and West!

Hurrah for the papers and books so brave!
Hurrah for the road not long,
Which leads from out of the present slough
To the firm of the workers' song!

Hurrah for the Comrades who fought in the past!
Hurrah for the days to come,
When the vanguard shall hear from the hosts so near—
The glorious words: "WELL DONE!"

McKINLEY STARTS IN.

In his inaugural address, the present President "pledged" himself, the previous one used to "consecrate" himself, to

"Prevent the execution of all schemes to oppress the people by undue charges on their supplies."

The first thought that will occur to the unsophisticated reader is, Has McKinley turned un-American? The theory of "Americanism," as she has been hitherto preached, is that all plans of giving aid to one class against oppression by any other are unhallowedly un-American; that genuine Americanism is best typefied by the conditions prevailing in cow-boy districts: every one for himself, and good luck to the survivor. The more sophisticated are fully aware that this was a false pretence; that "Americanism," as practised by our ruling class, consisted in giving protection to the boldest ruffian and aiding him with might and main to oppress the working class. Nevertheless, the avowal that the "people" need protection against domestic oppressors indicates a turn about worth noting.

In the second place, the intellectual crookedness or intellectual bankruptcy of our new President should not be allowed to escape uncommented on.

During the days when the Federal Income-tax law was being popularly debated this short and spicy dialogue took place:

Adversary of the Law—This law is all wrong. Just think of it: If by your thrift and industry you have got an income of $10,000 a year, you will be taxed on more than $5,000 thereof.

Neutral to the Law—I don't see any wrong in that. Give me the income and I won't mind the tax.

Besides the wit of this answer, it teaches an economic lesson that Mr. McKinley had better learn, to wit: "Never mind charges on supplies provided the people have enough to get the supplies."

Every person who approaches the Social Question superficially is preoccupied about taxes and prices, in other words they look at the question from the side of the consumer, which deserves no consideration, and neglect the question from the side of the producer, which alone deserves consideration. This principle can not be lost sight of without intellectual capsation.

The welfare of the workers, and they are the people, depends upon the share of their product that remains in their hands. Under the capitalist system, that share is their wages, and their wages decline with the increased perfection of machinery and concentration of production. Of course, the man whose consumption is small suffers, but this is not a cause, it is a result. The cause is the smallness of his earnings; these being unequal to his needs, his consumption declines. If his earnings are large, if the share of his product is large, his consumption will be large in proportion. Consumption will take care of itself. What needs taking care of is the system of production, and systematize it in such way that the producer is not robbed of the fruits of his labor.

It follows from this principle that, either ignorantly or perversely, our President announces that he proposes to take hold of the wrong sow by the ears. He may reduce the charges of the people's supplies and yet the people will not be a whit better off, seeing that their wages are bound to go down in proportion, while the idle class will thereby be pocketing a larger share of the fruits of labor.

Look at it as one may, McKinleyism is Clevelandism, just the same as Clevelandism is essentially Bryanism—different spellings for Capitalism.

WISE AUSTRIAN MIDDLE CLASS.

Austria is just now going through what may be called the throes of her first general elections. Hitherto the working class was wholly disfranchised; by the recently passed suffrage law, defective though it is, the workers may be said to be substantially enfranchised. The present elections are taking place under the new law.

It goes without saying that the new law is a result of that social evolution that is drawing everywhere more sharply the distinctions and antagonisms that exist between the capitalist, the middle and the working class. As a result of this the political pronunciamentos of the three classes in any capitalist country bear close resemblance to those of the corresponding classes in all others. Whether one reads a capitalist, a middle class or a proletarian political document in the Italian, German, American, Danish, or any other language, he will find the arguments running on identical lines. Without furnishing an exception to this rule, the political manifesto of the middle class of Vienna furnishes a variation that is highly interesting and that places that Viennese class ahead, intellectually, of its fellow middle classes in all other countries, our own not excepted.

It is a feature of the "reformer" that he can see only the interests of the middle class; of the proletariat he knows little and cares less. To him, the middle class is the class to be saved. He lives on recollections of the past; he traces that class back; finds it to have been the bulk of the nation, and, in his ignorance of facts and of social evolution, he believes that class to be still as powerful numerically, and as essential socially. To that class accordingly, the "reformer" turns, and, like a quack, he seeks to cure it. Overrun with quack reformers as the proletariat has been in all countries, and continues to be in ours, it does not attract, even approximately, the number of reform quacks that afflict the middle class and befuddle its intellect. Everywhere, accordingly, the middle class is the favorite social class for quack reformers to experiment upon. It is so in Vienna too, as a matter of course; but differently from everywhere else it is the Viennese middle class, as far as we can ascertain, that has first discovered this fact, and first sounds the note of warning against the quacks who are anxious to experiment upon it, and to whom everywhere else the middle class falls a ready prey. Viewed from this point, the most interesting political document issued in Austria during this campaign is one that proceeds from the Viennese middle class and in which this passage occurs:

"In the pending election for members of the Reichstag, we have to deal, not with the leaders of the Socialist working class only, but especially with a group of gentlemen, the so-called 'Social Reformers,' whom we should give a wide berth, because they seek to get into office upon our backs and to use us for objects upon which to practice their theoretical experiments. These people with their theories are infinitely more dangerous to us than the Socialists. The Socialists at least have a clear-cut programme which is strictly consistent with its promises. These 'Social Reformers,' however, with the jar of their confused notions, can do no end of mischief."

What trials, tribulations, illusions and mortifications would not our own middle class save itself if it possessed at least as much clearness of political vision as do its Viennese fellows, and likewise give a wide berth to the Bryans, Peffers, Kyles, Georges and a score of such other moths!

THE LATEST AND NEWEST.

The Philadelphia Union Traction Company's employes are in a plight peculiarly sad and yet peculiarly instructive.

Have their wages been reduced per hour, or their hours of toil been extended? No. Their wages have been raised per hour, and their hours of work have been reduced.

Only the other day they implored the company for a reduction of hours and increase of earnings per hour; they have now got both; and distracted by suffering, they wish to return to the previous rates.

Are they gone crazy? No; they are right, and herein lies the point.

Former rates were 16 2-3 cents per hour, and 12 hours work; that netted $2 per day.

The hours of work have been reduced to 10 and the wages have been raised but only two-thirds of a cent per hour; they now receive 17 1-3 cents. At the rate of 10 hours, that nets $1.75 a day. In other words the men's earnings have been lowered by 25 cents.

It has now come to a pass that the very demands of labor can be and are turned to gall by the capitalist class, and that, grievous though previous conditions were, they become preferable to the improved ones that the boss is willing to grant. It has come to even worse: Concessions to the workers have become agreeable to the boss inasmuch as such concessions afford an opportunity to plunder the workers under the guise of relieving them. Well may they dread that the loss of even some of the little they now get is veiled under any seeming kindness that may henceforth be bestowed upon them from such quarters.

Under the ignorant leadership of ignorant schemers, the working class of the country is fast approaching the point when their present degraded condition will be considered a paradise to what is in store for them.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The Hardy, Ark., "Morgan's Buzz-Saw" has got Mr. James R. Sovereign down fine. He tells how Sovereign, as a "pliant tool of Senator Jones," the Democrat, stumped Tennessee in the pay of the Populists but earned the wages paid to him by Jones by "advising the Populists of Memphis to vote for Carmack, the Democratic nominee for Congress, instead of B. G. West, the regular Populist nominee"; it sums up the character of this beauty-spot in these words:

"If there was a prize show offering a premium for the biggest political fakir in the country, the 'Buzz-Saw' would offer the name of James R. Sovereign."

The "Buzz-Saw," furthermore, says it is preparing a few chapters in which it proposes "to show up this slick-tongued demagogue in his proper light."

The Kansas City "Midland Mechanic" has this quaint and yet interesting item:

"J. P. McDonnell, for more than twenty years the editor of the Patterson, N. J., "Labor Standard," is being heartily endorsed for an Irish consulate. Mr. McDonnell has been an active and trustworthy worker in the labor field long enough for every man in it to add his wishes to those who have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. McDonnell for his success. If the appointment does come it will be about the first time in twenty years that Mr. McDonnell can be said to have secured a worthy return for his strenuous efforts in behalf of the working people of the country."

This is interesting inasmuch as it furnishes us with information we did not possess, to wit, that Mr. J. P. McDonnell is now pulling the wires for a Republican job after he got to the end of his tether with the Democratic party.

It is quaint because those who have kept tab on J. P., will surely smile to see him spoken of as "a trustworthy worker in the labor field," who, by this appointment, will "for the first time in twenty years have secured a worthy return for his strenuous efforts." It is but very few years ago when J. P. in his State of New Jersey was the center of a political scandal that very much conflicts with the theory of his having been twenty years without "a worthy return for his strenuous efforts." J. P. had a political job from the Democratic party in New Jersey on the Board of Arbitration. The sanctity of J. P.'s conduct was doubted; he and his board were investigated; he tried to dodge and got Mr. Gompers to "give him a character"; but the investigators asked Gompers who would vouch for himself and turned the calcium lights on J. P. It was found out that J. P. was guilty of peculation. He was turning the "mileage" into a source of revenue. He would get himself invited to "arbitrate" and forthwith charge mileage nothwithstanding he had secured passes on the railroads. Thus he was defrauding the State, and the mileage which he thus wrongfully collected was surely an ample return for his strenuous efforts in helping to keep the working class ignorant of its duties and rights.

This matter is historic. There are more such episodes in Mr. McDonnell's "labor field career." The "Midland Mechanic" should be more careful not to allow itself to be used as a speaking speaking tube for labor fakirs like this J. P.

The "Railway Times," organ of the American Railway Union, is in a fair way of being honored by the fakirs' brigade with the title of "Union Wrecker." It gives the A. F. of L. and its disreputable leaders this thorough spanking:

"Take the thousand and one labor-saving machines which daily multiply idle hands and increase the demand abnormally for employment, and in as great a ratio decrease opportunities for employment even at starvation wages, and then ask the A. F. of L. what it proposes to modify the law of supply and demand with, and the answer is silence. Certainly joining the A. F. of L. does not solve the problem, whatever else it may solve. * * * Socialism works along lines of rational reform. It deals in unities—not vagaries. The strike and the boycott have had their day. A new era is dawning, an era of higher and broader thought, in which there is redemption for the toiling masses."

THE TRUST—FROM THE SOCIALIST VIEWPOINT.

By Daniel De Leon.

[This article is one of eight others, published in the New York *Independent* of the 4th instant, as a symposium on the Trust Question.]

What is the Trust?

The trust is essentially a tool of production. The difference between the trust and the oldest style of privately owned tool, seen now only in museums, is a difference, not of kind, but of degree.

Man is a tool-using animal. The tool adds inches to his stature over nature by increasing the productivity of his labor. The same instinct that led man to fashion the first tool pushes him on to improve it. The more perfect the instrument of production, the more abundant are the fruits of labor. The trend of civilization is to render the product of labor so abundant that the burden of arduous toil, together with want or the fear of want, for the material necessaries of life may be lifted from the shoulders and the minds of man, and, thus raised above animal needs, his individuality, his intellectual and moral faculties may have free play. The rungs of the ladder, up which man climbs toward civilization, are the ever more perfect tools of production.

* * *

The development of the tool, or instrument of production, is twofold. It gathers power individually; it also gathers power collectively, by concentration.

The tool gathers power individually by keeping lively step with the discoveries of science and the maturing genius of man; the old handloom becomes a steam and Northrop loom; the old agricultural implements become steam plows, reapers and harvesters.

The collective power, however, of the tool is gathered by a bitter experience. In the course of its growth, the tool encounters a serious obstacle, that threatens it with nullification. Its aim, the increase of the store of wealth, is for a time balked. The tool is a weapon against the foe of the race—POVERTY. The wastefulness of competition turns the weapon's edge against itself. Only a long and bitter experience taught the lesson and suggested the remedy—CONCENTRATION. The discovery once made, it points and paves the way to further improvements. First is born the PARTNERSHIP of two individuals; then follows the partnership of two or more partnerships—the CORPORATION; next appears the partnership of several corporations—the TRUST.

The trust is that doubly developed instrument of production that combines both the highest individual and the highest collective development so far reached. It brings the productivity of human effort up to the highest point so far attained by the individual perfection of the tool. As such, the trust raises man to giant's stature over nature; it is a weapon that makes for civilization.

But this is not the whole truth.

* * *

It is not over nature alone that the tool adds inches to the individual; it also adds inches to him over the tool-less man. This pregnant socio-economic fact does not from the start manifest itself.

So long as the tool is slight and simple, he who wants it can readily bring it forth by the direct application of his labor to nature, and thereby place himself on a par with whomsoever already is in possession of its equal. But the tool develops. Its development is not from within, like organic matter. The feature of its development is the need and increasing need of other tools, besides increased powers of steam and electricity, to carve it out of nature with, and thus render it more potent by rendering it more fruitful. The tool used in production presently needs two, three, four other tools to bring it forth. Even then its acquisition by individual man, to the end of enabling him to compete with those already in possession of its like, may not be impossible, though the process becomes harder by degrees. When, however, the tool has finally reached that individual perfection of a Northrop loom, a Mergenthäler typesetter, a hydraulic press, a steam plow, reaper and binder, a Westinghouse electric engine, a cotton harvester, etc., and even long before that, none can any longer himself conjure forth its equal out of nature. When to this individual growth is coupled the collective development or concentration implied in the trust, free competition ceases de facto, whatever it may remain in theory.

The trust is the highest form of collective development the tool can reach under the system of private ownership in the machinery of production. But the gigantic powers it wields over nature accrue to those only who hold it; to all others it becomes a scourge. As such, the trust blocks the nation's path on its march to civilization.

Once the tool has reached this stage, it stands transmuted into a social-industrial power that emphasizes the changes which society has been undergoing since the privately owned tool first appeared, especially since the time when it entered upon the period of its rapid development; it carries these changes further, and it forces to the fore a new social problem.

* * *

We love to think that the Revolutionary Fathers gave our people political freedom. They did not. The ballot was conditioned upon property qualifications. This simple fact is of deep import in the study of the problem presented by the trust.

Then the tool of production was slight; it was easily acquired; and, consequently, property was the ready reward of industry. At such a time the role played by property was not yet manifest; indeed, it escaped the Revolutionary Fathers, except the two wisest and most far-seeing of them all—Franklin and Madison. At that time, accordingly, economic issues were absent from our party platforms; the people divided on issues essentially political. With the turning of the century a change comes over the surface; economic questions force themselves more and more to the front; they were prominent during the Jackson administrations; they became dominant in the Harison-Van Buren campaign; to-day they are the all-absorbing topic. This change in the physiognomy of our politics has followed closely, and has been brought on by the development of the tool under the system of private ownership.

Competition is predicated upon the capacity of competitors to sell equally cheap; this capacity depends upon the power to produce with equal abundance, and this, in turn, is in direct ratio to the development of the tool. With the approach and appearance in the country's industrial arena of a tool, privately owned and so far developed that its creation by those without it was no longer feasible, these ceased to be qualified for the competitive warfare, and the common weal began to be differentiated into three hostile social classes:

First, the Proletariat—the wholly tooless class, who, no longer able to exercise their labor function without access to tools not owned by themselves, are reduced to the level of merchandise, and compelled to sell their labor power in the labor market for a living;

Second, the Middle Class—the class who, though armed with tools sufficiently powerful to exclude the tooless class, find it harder and harder to hold their own in competition with the more powerful and ever-perfecting tools held by the class above; and,

Third, the Capitalist Class—the class who, possessed of the prerequisites for successful competition, can shift work from their own to the shoulders of the proletariat; can live in idleness upon "profits"—i. e., upon the difference between what their employees produce and the "wages" paid to them—i. e., the market price of labor; and can, with their more abundant and cheaper production, undersell the class below, and reduce it to the grade of proletarians.

These class distinctions—proletarian dependence, deepening misery and increasing numbers; middle-class precariousness of existence, declining powers and ruin; capitalist idleness, swelling affluence and masterhood—together with the class conflicts into which capitalism casts society, long remained veiled. The trust rends the veil. The several views held on the trust are mainly the class-conscious expressions of the three hostile economic classes into which capitalist society is divided, and which are shaken into class consciousness by the relentless logic of capitalist development manifested in the appearance of the trust.

The capitalist class seeks to uphold the trust in order to maintain its own class supremacy. Its spokesmen tire not truthfully to point out the inevitableness of concentration in productive powers, together with the advantages that flow therefrom in increased production and cheapness; they conceal, however, the blood that stains the trail of the trust, or even deny the existence of such by inundating the country with rosy statistics, gotten up to order, on the condition of the people. But—"Meliora probant, deteriora sequuntur."*

The middle class, tho itself ready to profit by the dependence of the tooless proletariat, is up in arms against the trust, whose superior power is crushing it. It chooses to see only the ravages wrought by the trust; it inveighs against "monopoly," while it upholds "capital"; ignorant of the economico-juridic contradiction implied in such a position, it clamors for the overthrow of the "monster," or, at least, for the clipping of its wings; and lawyers who are not jurists, together with economists who are not scientists, encourage the folly with their twaddle.

Lastly, goaded into mental activity by the smarts it suffers from the capitalist, and untrammeled by the class interests of the middle class, the class-conscious proletariat is pushed beyond both the conservatism of the former and the reactionary posture of the latter. Its class interests reveal to it the two leading features of the trust; the development by concentration of the tool, which makes for progress, and its system of private ownership, which blocks progress; its class interests make it aware of the contradiction, and direct it to save the good and permanent feature by stripping it of the evil and temporary one. The class-conscious proletariat pushes the evolutionary movement onward by straining for the public ownership of the trust.

* * *

The ladder, up which mankind has been climbing toward civilization, the ever more powerful tool of production, is the storm center around which the modern social storm rages.

The capitalist class seeks to keep it for its own exclusive use.

The middle class seeks to break it down, thereby throwing civilization back.

The proletariat seeks to preserve it and improve it, and to open it to all.

* They prove better things, but worse follows. —Ed. THE PEOPLE.

A WOMAN.

(Continued from Page 1.)

to come to work in such clothes at such an establishment as that. Now, this woman was as clean as it was possible to be in her person, but she could not afford fine clothes. Now you see that "business," no matter on how small a scale, even conducted by our "superior" males, will change a person from a human being into a brute.

Man, the so-called superior creature, should spend his time in wiping out the social conditions that can furnish such instances, instead of getting up in a hall and talking about "free love" and "free woman," when they are such miserable slaves themselves. If it was not for the way this same "superior sex" sells itself out every election day, and stands by with his hands in his pants' pockets and sees every right taken from it (by a part of that superior class), I say, if these same men would only get up and do the right thing and try in every way to do away with their own present condition of slavery, then they could with reason and right begin to talk of "freeing poor woman," but not before.

NEMO.

For an Italian Paper.

All Comrades and sympathizers who realize the importance of upholding a Socialist paper in the Italian language in this country are requested to send contributions and subscriptions to Comrade C. F. Garzone, 14 Varick place, New York City. Send at least a nickel. "Il Proletario" needs assistance. To discontinue its valuable work would be a serious setback to the movement among the Italian wage earners.

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—There are several questions I'd like to ask you about the Socialism and the Socialist Labor party.

Uncle Sam—Give us the first.

B. J.—How will you remove the prejudice there is to-day against the Socialist Labor party?

U. S.—There is no prejudice to remove.

B. J.—There isn't? Why, lots of it; I could mention to you a dozen or more men who are full of prejudice against it.

U. S.—Did you ever read Artemus Ward's account of his wife's prejudice against getting up on cold mornings and building the fire?

B. J.—I don't call that a prejudice.

U. S.—What do you call it?

B. J.—I call that a dislike for a certain thing.

U. S.—Ditto, ditto with the alleged "prejudice" of some people against the Socialist Labor party.

B. J.—But——

U. S.—These people don't entertain a prejudice against the S. L. P. any more than Artemus Ward's Betsy Jane had a prejudice against getting up first and warming the house. The groundwork of "prejudice" is a mistaken belief. She had no mistaken belief in the matter; she knew exactly what she meant, and did not want it. These people, who, you say, have a prejudice against the S. L. P., entertain no mistaken notions about the party; they know just what it stands for; and they, consistently enough, don't want it.

B. J.—Then they are right?

U. S.—From their standpoint, yes. I'll tell you who they are. One set consists of the moral and intellectual flotsam and jetsam of society; a lot of crooks and lightweights full of conceit; their aim is to fish in troubled waters, to "get there" at the expense and sacrifice of everything. These worthies have for the S. L. P. the "prejudice" of the mouse for the cat. They know that they are thoroughly known. Some have been in the party before, and have been kicked out; others know they would have to join the kickees if they did get in. To all of them the S. L. P. is a nuisance, and I can't blame them.

B. J.—But there are——

U. S.—Another set consists of the "pure and simple" labor fakirs. So long as the S. L. P., as yet too weak to assert itself, used to play the despicable poor-roon role of a "complaisant husband," it was dearly loved by them, and they had a free field for their iniquitous conduct against the rank and file. Now that's changed. The S. L. P. has drawn the sword against all plunderers of the working class. These labor fakirs have felt our blows. They have no prejudice against us, they hate us, they know that the S. L. P. has rung the knell of their doom.

B. J.—Yes; but there are people who fall under neither of these categories and who oppose the S. L. P.

U. S.—All others oppose the S. L. P. honestly——

B. J.—Well, what will you do to gain their support?

U. S.—They are divisible into two classes: Capitalists and such whose interests are dead set against us, and bona fide workers, whose interests are with us, and don't yet see it——

B. J.—And how will you go about it to make them see their interests?

U. S.—By carrying on the warfare against capitalist rascality and all its outposts with ever increasing relentlessness. Only such a course will make us understood by the class that belongs to us. Only that will bring victory. The "prejudices" against us are a reliable barometer of our progress.

LETTER BOX.

Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

C. R. D., Brighton, Ill.—It is to be hoped you, too, have learned the lesson that these "reform magazines" are but fly-paper.

J. J. T., N. Y.—As a constant reader you should be able to answer that question yourself. It has been again and again treated in these columns. Look up the article "Money," in the issue of Jan. 20, 1895. It deals thoroughly with the matter. Read it carefully; study it.

S. N., San Diego, Cal.—That Dr. W. J. Johnson does not deserve the space and time you give to him. Moreover, he should not be discouraged by exposure; he is a member of a class of cranks and intellectual crooks, who are fulfilling their mission excellently by doing their best to have the fact generally known that the S. L. P. and they have nothing in common. These people can not denounce the party too much to suit us.

J. E. A., Albany, N. Y.—Cultivate the art of writing; but particularly gather facts from the industrial world in your own town, and use them to illustrate Socialist principles. This is the most valuable work contributors can perform for the movement. In this way a large amount of facts could enrich the quarry of all our speakers everywhere.

Copies of THE PEOPLE Wanted.

Comrades having any copy of THE PEOPLE of Feb. 14, 1897, to spare will kindly mail same to this office, for which we will send in return two copies of the current issue for every one copy sent us. That issue, which contains the article "Lapses," has been wholly exhausted, notwithstanding 1,500 copies were printed in excess of the regular edition.

THE PEOPLE,
184 William St., N. Y. City.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

GREETINGS AND CRITICISM

From California to the Comrades of the S. L. P.

The Comrades of California herewith send greeting:

We are pressing forward to the goal with what power we possess. All the Comrades are full of vim. The fires of enthusiasm were never so bright. Every Section is pushing along its educational programme with a determination worthy of our noble cause. Our indoor and open-air mass meetings are all well patronized. The sneers, contempt, derision and ridicule of our opponents are rapidly melting away, and we can confidently affirm that our past efforts have produced a most profound and lasting impression upon the minds of the really thoughtful among all creeds, professions, classes and parties.

New Sections and branches have recently been formed in many places in this State. Each for itself will quickly become a center of intense activity. The members, individually and collectively, by constant effort will develop the capacity for more and mightier work. But, alas, sometimes we have war among ourselves. And yet who has not? We have all sorts and conditions of men. The zeal and sincerity of such as profess to adopt our principles and tactics from any other than the very highest and soundest motives must in all cases be of an ephemereal character.

In the very nature of things ours is a party of discipline, and the flash light of adverse critisism will mark the pathway of every specimen of egotistic individualism who may appear in our ranks. It is generally admitted that our critical analysis of all parties is very keen; but it is not so well known that we are equally severe upon ourselves. I often think excessively. A poet has said:

Faults, like mud, upon the surface flow;
If you would have pearls, dive below.

Personally, we believe there is a great preponderance of pure motive in the mind of every man, woman and child in the world, and that nearly all error arises from the lack of knowledge, together with systematic and scientific training, and mild discipline exercised upon every one all through life. Even the best informed have much to learn, and are not averse to suggestion or correction. This can be done with an amount of tenderness, tact and love beyond the comprehension of some that we hope and believe may be learned by every one. Try it with all your might in case of controversy.

Comrades, we have a great work before us. To be effectual, even our ordinary conversation should be cultivated as a fine art, inasmuch as we need a higher type of ethical manhood. Still we must also have all that sturdiness and integrity which comes of sincere conviction, and be ever on our guard against any leaning toward effeminacy.

In this connection we are delighted with the style, scope and character of the open letters to Rev. Heber Newton and Mr. Eugene T. Debbs, which have recently appeared in THE PEOPLE. They are superb and unique, and should receive an equally fair and candid reply from the parties named through the columns of our official organ. It may be, however, that our Comrades are, as a rule, in the habit of unnecessarily accentuating their individual opinions. For instance, "I am a new trades unionist," says one; "no politics in the union for me," says another; "No trade union at all for me," says a third; and not unfrequently the conversation of three such people will show an entire absence of any desire for orderly deliberation. All will talk in loud voice at the same time, simply drowning each other in a confusion of noise.

Hurrah for the Co-operative Commonwealth.

JAMES ANDREW.

THE LYNN MASS MEETING.

"Pure and Simpledom's" False Pretences Nailed With Undeniable Facts.

The below circular, which explains itself, was issued by the Mass Meeting Committee of the Lynn, Mass., Central Labor Union, and appeared last week in the Lynn papers:—

To the Wage Workers of Lynn:—

Greeting:—In view of the fact that considerable feeling has developed between certain members of trade unions affiliated with the Central Labor Union because that body has decided to invite Daniel De Leon, the well-known Socialist of New York city, as one of the speakers at the mass meeting to be held Saturday, March 13, we take this opportunity to make the following statement of facts. People who are opposed to De Leon have made the following statements since the last meeting of the C. L. U.

First—That the vote to assume the expense of a mass meeting and to invite De Leon was rushed through by a packed meeting without proper sanction by the affiliated unions.

Second—That because the C. L. U. is affiliated with the A. F. of L., the President of which is not on good terms with De Leon, and is opposed to all active Socialists, we have no right to invite a man to speak who is a Socialist and opposed to President Gompers.

Third—That the C. L. U. has no right to pay the expense of a mass meeting for any speaker of any political party.

Fourth—That the object of a mass meeting is an awakening of the workers to organization and activity in their own behalf, to the end that we may secure better wages and conditions for all, and that it is wrong to invite a Socialist to speak because he must necessarily be opposed to trade unions, and would do us more harm than good.

We wish to answer No. 1 as follows:—At a regular meeting of the C. L. U. held Dec. 10, 1896, the delegates were instructed to refer the question of a mass meeting to be held in the near future to their respective unions for instructions. Two months have passed since the question was first discussed by the C. L. U. The question of holding the meeting and of inviting De Leon to speak have both been discussed at each meeting since. Delegates from four of the affiliated unions were instructed to vote for De Leon, others used their best judgment, and the majority voted for him.

On No. 2 we would say that the workers have expended too much of their time and energy already over the personal likes and dislikes of their officials. The question is broader and deeper than that. The C. L. U. has invited both these men to speak; they are both able, and we sincerely hope they will both come. If there is anything wrong or weak about our present form of organization, that man is our friend who points out the weakness and a remedy. If the Socialist is wrong, we want President Gompers to debate the question in public with De Leon, and let an intelligent audience decide for itself. The truth and the right need not fear investigation.

Our answer to No. 3 is that the constitution of the C. L. U. calls for the regulation, by law, of seven specified subjects, and in a general way many more, and distinctly says as follows:—

"We favor the self-employment of labor by co-operative association, as complete independence can only be obtained when the workers are no longer dependent on other individuals for the right to labor."

The C. L. U. has the undoubted right to decide by majority vote to invite any person to speak at its mass meeting, and if any one is wrong, it is the member who objects to a man because of his political belief. These many things which our constitution calls for can be obtained only by political action, and the views of Socialists are in perfect accord with the above extract from the constitution of the C. L. U. We want none to speak simply for the purpose of booming any candidate for a political job—and none such have been invited.

On No. 4 we quote the following extract from the constitution of the Socialist Labor party:—

"WHEREAS, We recognize the necessity of carrying on the war against capitalism, simultaneously on the political and economic fields, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That we recommend to all Socialists to join the organizations of the trades to which they respectively belong."

Many of the hard workers for the success of trade unionism in Lynn are Socialists. Many who do not believe in political action and co-operation are neglectful of the trade union; and stay away from their meetings, or refuse to accept positions as delegates or on committees, who have to work and worry and sit up nights for the good of the cause. If the Socialists are interested enough in the welfare of your own trade union to do the amount of work they are doing, to be always present, and to secure a majority vote in a legitimate way for men and measures according to their own ideas, you have no right to refuse to play because the majority voted against you, but just let all be equally active, and the movement will take on new life, and more success will be ours.

No one wants to weaken or destroy the unions we have already got, but we want those unions to be more efficient by making use of their voting power. We want them to become more interested in co-operative self-employment and less interested in the strike and boycott. This is the aim of the Socialists, and De Leon will tell you some very interesting facts and figures about how to accomplish the same. If what we have already got isn't good enough to stand honest criticism, the quicker we know it the better. If there is anything new we certainly are not bigoted enough to refuse to listen and then investigate and decide for ourselves.

Come and see us Saturday, March 13, at Lasters' Hall, and, whatever the outcome of this meeting may be, if the C. L. U. decides to hold more mass meetings as we hope it will, you will find the Socialist members with their coats off trying to make a success of that meeting, no matter who the speakers may be.

Yours for the success of the workers,
THE MASS MEETING COMMITTEE,
FRED S. CARTER, Sec.
Lynn, Mass., March 3, 1897.

Socialists are often charged with exaggerated rectitude. They are often said to stand so straight that they lean over backwards. This accusation recurs regularly every time that there is one of those outbreaks of Utopianism that aim to remove causes without touching effects, and whose effect can be none other than to conceal, without curing, the social gangrene. Aware of the puerility, and even mischief, of such movements, Socialists not only leave them alone, but fight them. And then follow the charges above mentioned.

The latest occasion when these charges were loud was three years ago, at the time the so-called reform movement broke out in New York city. We were told that "half a loaf was better than none," that "one thing at a time was necessary," and that the half loaf meant and the one thing then attainable was the overthrow of Tammany. We answered proving the fallacy of the general principle, and demonstrating the absurdity of imagining that the "Reform Capitalists" were in any way, morally or intellectually, better than the "Unreformed Tammany Capitalists," for all of which we were roundly denounced by the Utopians.

Nearly three years have passed since then, and now comes Dr. Parkhurst, one of the most heels-over-head Reformers of that period with this substantial confirmation of our position. He says:

"I think that one Platt is worse than five Crokers, and if it is to be between the Plattites and the Crokerites to determine the character of the first municipal administration of the Greater New York, I hope with a hope that is unqualified and intense, that the Crokerites and the Sheehanites and the Divverites will win, and that I say not because I loathe less the filthiness of the latter gang, but because I fear more the conscienceless ness of Mr. Platt and the machinations of the shrewd but discreditable accomplices who bend to his nod and in shame-faced servility do his bidding."

The wise man does from the start what the fool does in the end.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

Ring Politician E. M. Grout's "Glasgow Plan" Riddled Some More.

[Editor THE PEOPLE.—The enclosed article having been sought to be suppressed by a certain "reform magazine" in your city, I think has thereby received an endorsement that should commend it to the attention of THE PEOPLE. Do you share my view? C. R. DAVIS.]

BRIGHTON, Ill., March 6.—As the "Hon." E. M. Grout's articles on "Municipal Ownership" are dangerous to the best interests of the working class, I desire to call attention to his errors. I shall speak from the standpoint of a class-conscious Socialist.

Mr. Grout starts out by claiming that municipal ownership would be a great blessing to the "people." An honest and clear-sighted Socialist looks upon the word "people" when used by politicians as a very indefinite term; he always drives the employer of this word to the wall and compels him to define what part of society does he mean to apply "people" to. Society, as it exists to-day, is divided into three very distinct classes: (1) The big capitalists; (2) The small capitalists; and (3) The propertyless or wage class. The interests of all three are antagonistic. They have nothing in common, and cannot, while living under private ownership and private competition, work together for a common end any more than tar and water will mix.

To show how, under existing society, they are at eternal daggers drawn: The propertyless class want to have high wages; the big and little capitalists want to give small wages; one demands low rent, the other high rent; one is crying out for small profit; the other is waging a relentless war for big profit. All the philosophers of the world could not conceive of anything more antagonistic than these classes.

The interests of these classes being opposed to each other, Mr. Grout's "Municipal Ownership" could not apply to all three; that is to say, his word "people" does not apply to the whole of society. He did not expect that the deception should be discovered; but still, with all his sophistry, his article itself reveals what class or classes the word "people" is applied to in his vocabulary. And let it be stated right here that the only class that honest reformers have in view is the class of the producers of wealth-the propertyless. We, class-conscious proletarians, are totally oblivious of the other two classes, for the conclusive reason that we and they have nothing in common except in so far as there is something in common between the robbers and the robbed, the skinners and the skinned.

Mr. Grout says: "Municipal ownership is a proposition to reduce taxes." As the propertyless or wage class have nothing to pay taxes on, and what is more, they never will have, this "proposition" surely does not have reference to this class. To "reduce taxes" would only benefit the little and big capitalists, and their interests being opposite to those of the wage class, it would work an injury to this class. To "reduce taxes" would simply be swelling the coffers of the two capitalistic classes; or, in other words, it would be strengthening the power that these vampire classes already have over the wage class.

Mr. Grout claims that a city under municipal ownership would realize "natural and proper profits." The science of Socialism clearly demonstrates that profit is robbery, and under no circumstances could it be shown to be "natural and proper." Profit is simply unpaid labor. He gives us clearly to understand that these profits would be used in reducing public expenses, thereby reducing taxes for the little and big capitalists.

Again, Mr. Grout reveals the fact that his municipal ownership scheme is not in the interest of the class of wage earners, seeing that he speaks of it as a "business" enterprise. Business means the selling or manufacturing of a thing for profit. It never has reference to a man working for wages. When we say a "business man" we certainly never mean a wage worker.

Now mark you, with all his anxiety (!) for the workingman, he never says a solitary word concerning the public ownership of the tools of machinery and land wherewith the 5,000,000 in enforced idleness might have access to these resources, and with collective labor and collective distribution, and but a small amount of labor, could produce not only the necessaries but the luxuries of life.

According to Mr. Grout, municipal ownership is commensurate with the least amount of taxes. Therefore, to reduce taxes to their minumum, all the profits possible must be ground out of the workingman, and in order to accomplish this, wages must be reduced to a bare animal existence; this is the condition that the wage worker has at last arrived at, and what Mr. Grout through his municipal ownership seeks to perpetuate.

It may be claimed that the Socialist Labor party embodies municipal ownership in the resolutions adopted at the time of the adoption of its platform. But the all important thing about these resolutions is, that they specify "the employees to operate the same co-operatively and to elect their own superior officers." To run these co-operatively would mean that the workers should draw all the earnings, thus leaving no profits for any idleness, in proportion to the amount of labor performed by each worker. Now, Mr. Grout proposes quite a different plan. His proposition is that the workers shall draw only an existence, called wages, and the balance of his earnings, called profit, shall go towards reducing the taxes of the little and the big capitalists.

What the capitalists mean by municipal ownership is the further development of the capitalistic system of private ownership of all the instruments of production by riveting to it more firmly the oppressive powers of the capitalist government. C. R. DAVIS.

Brighton, Ill.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

CRIME

Is the Direct and Legitimate Issue of Poverty, Want and Misery.

THOMSON, Minn., March 7.—In the Chicago "Record" some time ago I noticed a short editorial entitled "Poverty and Crime." The editor says there was something significant in a report published in a former issue, that since the distribution of supplies had been commenced for the relief of the extreme poor the number of arrests had greatly diminished. There is no way of obtaining absolutely accurate statistics as to the relation of poverty to crime, but that there is a very close relation between the two no one denies who has ever looked into the matter.

The editor goes on to say that a small percentage of the criminal element embrace crime deliberately and from choice. That there are many men who, because of hereditary influences or environment, are willful criminals. But that a far greater number are led to crime because of lack of stamina and moral backbone. He ends the article by saying: "The human being will not stand the crushing process any better than the traditional worm. And it is a part of society's duty to see that the crushing is not carried on too far."

I do not believe that any one ever adopts crime as an occupation deliberately and from choice. I have never taken any stock—to use a figure of speech—in the theory of "heredity and environment." I acknowledge that a man's surroundings could be such as to lead him into crime. But this does not prove that moral diseases are inherited the same as the physical are. Modern society, as now constituted, is divided into two main classes—wealthy millionaires on the one hand, confronted by an enormous mass of proletarians on the other;—the issue out of which must be either Socialism or moral ruin.

To avoid a host of evils, that are the logical conclusion and result of the age of capital, and to secure more equitable distribution of the means and appliances of happiness, the Socialists propose that land and capital, which are the requisites of labor and the source of all wealth and culture, shall become the common property of society, and be managed by it for the general good. In thus maintaining that society should assume the management of industry and secure an equitable distribution of the fruits of toil, all forms of Socialism are agreed, however much they may differ in other points. I hold, in common with many other Socialists, that Socialism is the necessary outcome of Christianity; that Socialism and Christianity are essential the one to the other; and no writer worthy the name can deny that the ethics of Socialism are not closely akin to the ethics of Christianity.

If the distribution of supplies to a few of the poor of Chicago will accomplish such good results, as we here have unmistakable evidence that it has, what would be the result of a universal distribution of supplies, such as would take place under the Co-operative Commonwealth? It would regenerate the world; in a word, it would accomplish what Christianity has striven so hard to accomplish for eighteen hundred years.

There would then be no excuse for stealing; every one who was willing to work would be assured plenty of the comforts of life, and what is of far more consequence, from a moral point of view—he would have plenty of leisure, in which to improve himself intellectually; and intellectual advancement would mean o corresponding progress morally.

No race of people can hope for moral and intellectual progress when the great mass of laboring people are compelled to exert every muscle and every moment of time in the struggle for a bare existence; they have no time in which to improve themselves. It is no exaggeration to say that the human race has now reached the lowest point of moral degradation. And this is due to our present system of capitalism. Under our present system it not infrequently happens that one man has it in his power to make thousands go hungry and half fed, dependent upon his bounty. This condition of things cannot help but engender a host of moral disorders. Every poor man cannot help but view with longing eyes the ease, power and luxury that wealth bring to its possessor; he sees around him men who have become wealthy by ways little better than stealing; the means whereby Jay Gould, for instance, accumulated his wealth is but very little different from the methods pursued by the common thief. Such a condition of things cannot help but be a continual menace to society. The average church member of to-day is ready to close his factory although he is cognizant of the fact that he is thereby depriving hundreds, often thousands, of their only means of obtaining a living, and that in this one act of his he may be driving many a man to take his first step on the downward path of moral degradation. Nor is the church member deprived thereby of any sleep. During the last century the human race has made giant strides in the direction of moral rottenness.

Alms giving and feeding the poor is only scratching a blood-sore. It allays temporary irritation but does not purge the system of the disease. I shall always have an undying hatred for anything which contributes to the success of a system that forces man to the verge of starvation, and keeps him in industrial bondage. Life has become a huge struggle for bread. Everything that makes life happy and worth living is created by labor. Then why should thousands who are ready and willing to work be starving and half clothed? There are tons of food and clothing, all of which has been made by labor. And those who create the wealth of the world are generally allowed to retain barely enough to keep body and soul together. O, generosity, thou art a jewel indeed!

Hope springs eternal in the human heart; man never is, but always to be blessed with better times, every laboring man continues to hope, and in the majority of cases he bases his hope for better times on the promises of that curse of modern society: the politician. They are a living lie. "As well believe a woman or an epitaph."

There were many who believed, and continue to believe that "free silver" would readjust every market value; that "free silver" would overcome the workings, or, rather, the effect of the law of supply and demand and competition. Some people don't seem to realize that if there is ten million bushels of wheat more than is necessary for consumption, wheat will be cheap, and this, too, in spite of the fact that the millionaire mine owners may have their vaults lined with so-called "free silver." And always remember, these economic laws will continue to adjust the wages paid for labor in spite of "free silver" or "free gold" or "free trade," or any other quack remedy for industrial and social evils. The fact is becoming all too plainly apparent that the toiling masses are gradually sinking into an industrial serfdom that will rival the worst days of the old feudal regime.

But, like Socrates, capitalism has swallowed the cup of hemlock, and will die, just as surely as did Socrates. If left to itself, it contains the elements of its own decay.

A Democrat will get up and proceed to show that "free trade" will bring the long looked for good times. Then up will rise a Republican and proceed to prove that his Democratic opponent is a liar, that all the country needs is a dose of protection. Their arguments would look just as sensible to me if they undertook to prove that two and two are five. The effect of this opposition is that the parties who are really interested in the result, viz., the workingmen, are misled into believing that one or the other party holds the key to the situation. The toiling masses have no time to inform themselves, and are, consequently, compelled to rely on the political speaker for what little information they obtain. And even if the politician were ever so willing to aid the toiling millions, they could not overcome the effect of those economic laws that are the necessary result of an age of capital.

The ministers claim that the capitalist holds a patent direct from the Almighty God for his present position. I should like to know very much where in the Holy Writ they find the authority for the individual ownership of the natural and social wealth of this earth. When all other resources fail, knaves have never failed to quote Holy Writ in defense of their position, whatever that may be. The most of it can be twisted so that it will mean most anything a person may wish.

If the present order of things continue it will not be long before the entire earth will be owned by a gigantic trust or stock company. I dare not die, because I have not sufficient money to pay for dirt enough to cover my body with. This theory of the so-called divine right of man to exact tribute from his fellow mortals does more to retard the growth of Socialism than any other one thing. I think the Bible proves, if it proves anything, that man has no such right. And any God who will give man the will and power to starve and otherwise torture his fellowman should be dethroned. I care not where such a doctrine comes from, I hate it, and I defy it. And with all due respect to every one, I say "damn any such doctrine as this."

You see, dear reader, under the Co-operative Commonwealth all the business education that we will need is just enough so that every one will know when we have made sufficient brick to fill a car and then ship it to some fellow workman in Massachusetts and exchange it for a car load of tooth-picks or shoes. Under such a regime every one could exchange the products of his toil without having to pay tribute to any one. And I can't see that it requires any great amount of brains to sit in an office and open letters and see how many bricks Tom, Dick and Harry want. I know of some lordly superintendents of brick factories that seem to have a brick or two in their brain-case, in spite of the fact that they have nothing but bricks where there should be brains, they still demand and receive the homage usually accorded a king, which is always denied the son of genius and poverty.

The capitalist has not only forced the toiler into a cave, but has blinded him to the real cause of his trouble. And previous to the advent of Socialism, his efforts to free himself had thus far proven nothing but the blind groping of Homer's Cyclops round the walls of his cave.

The attributes of the capitalist are such as suit reptiles, engendered out of the increasing moral slime of a mighty universe.

I have no fears for the result should the Socialists vote themselves into power. I have great faith in the good common sense of the American people. I will not deny that such a change would be freighted with great responsibility; but so would any radical change be. The capitalist is an apostle of our present system; he cares not how many lives he may sacrifice in the effort to sustain it. He serves his divine master with a great zeal that knows no abatement; with an ardor that constantly increases, and with a devotion unwavering and constant as the polar star.

Christ, dost Thou live indeed, or are
Thy bones
Still straightened in their rock-hewn
sepulcher?
And was Thy rising only dreamed by
her
Whose love of Thee for all her sins
atones?
For here the air is filled with men's
groans,
Socialists who call upon Thy name are
all but slain.
O, Christ, dost Thou not hear the bitter
wail of pain
From those poverty compels to lie upon
the stones?
Come down, O, Son of God! incestuous
gloom
Curtains the land, and through the star-
less night
Over Thy cross the love of gold I see!
If Thou in very truth didst burst the
tomb,
Come down, O Son of Man! and show
Thy might
Lest the capitalist be crowned instead
of Thee!

M. A. HUDSON.

It is to be hoped that the scandal now going on in the New York "Reform" Police Board will not go by unperceived.

These Police Commissioners, be it remembered, are our "gentlemen."

PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

National Executive.

Regular meeting held March 9, 1897; Comrade Matchett in the chair; absent, Furman, excused.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

Financial report for week ending February 27, 1897: Income, $41.90; expenses, $38.77; balance, $3.13.

Financial report for week ending March 6, 1897: Income, $96.70; expenses, $42.42; balance, $54.28.

Comrades Malkiel and Copp appointed a committee to report on the proposition of the Arbeiter Zeitung Publishing Association.

Section Pittsburg reports the expulsion of Robert Schroeder.

Section Fredericksburg reports the expulsion of Harmon B. Stephens and James S. Chesley for voting for Republican and Democratic parties at the last election.

Charter granted new Sections at San Antonio, Texas, and Phœnix, Arizona.

CHAS. B. COPP, Rec. Secy.

Illinois.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., March 4.—The Section has arranged an excellent course of lectures to be delivered free every Tuesday evening, at 7 p. m. sharp, at Baughn's Hall, 19 South Main street, near Broadway. The lecturer will be Comrade C. R. Davis, of Brighton, Ill. His lectures will comprise the following subjects: I.—What is the cause of the toilers' misery? II.—What is the remedy? III.—The remedy must come from the toilers. IV.—Has the working class the power within themselves to revolutionize society and usher in the new civilization?

Everybody cordially invited, free admission, no collection.

Massachusetts.

BOSTON, March 9.—German Section.—It is a long time since we have given a report of our Section. This is easy to account for. The membership of the German Section in this city was so small that it was almost impossible to make any report worth having. There were then but a very few members in good standing; now, however, the number of good paying members is increasing considerably. We have taken part in organizing the District Alliance of the S. T. & L. A. in this city, and have elected a delegation of three to attend its meetings.

We are preparing a general agitation for the benefit of the cause.

Lately our members came together and decided to bring some life into the Section; the result was highly successful. At one of our meetings we decided to formally celebrate the anniversary of the Paris Commune, March 22, at the Arbeiter Hall, Amary street. Comrade Mrs. Martha Moore Avery will deliver an address in the English language, and Max Forker, if here on that day, will deliver one in German. We intend to make this festival as successful as possible and will have various recitations and songs to do so. There will also be a dance after the entertainment. The prices of the tickets are 25c. for gentlemen and 15c. for ladies. The entertainment will begin precisely at 8 p. m.

We trust that the Comrades and sympathizers will do all in their power to make this festival a success, as the proceeds will be used for the benefit of our Section and the party at large.

E. M. SCHWEIZER, Secy.

Daniel De Leon Lectures in Boston and Lynn.

Daniel De Leon will speak in Lynn under the auspices of Central Labor Union of that city Saturday evening, March 13, and in Caledonian Hall, 45 Eliot street, Boston, Sunday evening, the 14th. B.

Missouri.

ST. LOUIS, March 5.—On the 3d inst. the Socialists of this city held an enthusiastic convention at Walhalla Hall to nominate a city ticket. There were 36 delegates present and many sympathizers. The convention was called to order by Henry J. Poelling; Peter Schwiete and Joseph Scheidler were elected secretaries.

The following platform was adopted:

1.—We demand that the city of St. Louis obtain possession of all local railroads, ferries, bridges, gas, electric light and power, heating and cold storage plants, and all industries requiring municipal franchises or supervision. And that all these utilities be furnished to the people at cost, the employees to operate the same co-operatively, under control of the municipal administration, and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee to be discharged for political reasons.

2.—That no land now owned or hereafter acquired by the city of St. Louis be sold, but used for public purposes.

3.—That the city establish and maintain public lodging houses, an orphan and foundlings' home, a home for abandoned women, and hospitals, in thinly populated neighborhoods, with all the modern improvements.

4.—A well regulated system of food, milk, dairy, workshop and factory inspection for the health of the public and the safety of the employees.

5.—That the city furnish meals and clothing to children of school age, where the parents, through lack of employment or sickness, are unable to provide for them, that the compulsory education laws may be put in force.

6.—The enforcement of the assessment laws; that the railroads, corporations and wealthy individuals, who, in most cases, are assessed but for a small percentage of real value of their property, while the small property owners are assessed as high as the law calls for.

7.—Municipal employment for all the idle citizens.

8.—That the City Legislature make the proper appropriation to carry out the law in regard to public bath houses.

Nominations were then made for the various city offices. The ticket selected is:—

Mayor—Henry J. Poelling.
Comptroller—Sol. Kaucher.
Treasurer—J. T. Nicholas.
Auditor—Peter Schwiete.
Register—John Murnaghan.
Collector—Joseph Scheidler.
Marshal—Ed Brandel.
Inspector Weights and Measure.—Peter Werde.

President Board of Assessors—Frank Knoble.

President Board of Public Improvements—Ed Kollas.

President City Council—R. T. Avis.

City Council—Emil R. Lochmann, Alex. Kaucher, Adam Buehner, Julius Heldemann, Henry Strackhoff and Henry Gerhold.

While the nominations were being made General Fry was placed in nomination several times, but each time he declined to allow his name to be placed on the ticket, saying that he was certain that if he was nominated it would be an injury to the ticket.

After the city ticket had been nominated the convention at once started to make nominations for the House of Delegates.

The following delegates were selected:

Fifth Ward—Alex. Kaucher.

Seventh Ward—Herman Mohn.

Tenth Ward—Clemence Bernhardt.

Sixteenth Ward—Charles Wipperman.

Seventeenth Ward—Peter Werdes.

Eighteenth Ward—Henry Knobel.

Twenty-third Ward—Jacob Dorner.

REPORT OF THE MISSOURI STATE COMMITTEE S. L. P., FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1897.

RECEIPTS.

On hand Feb. 1, 1897	$3 35
Feb. 1—Sol. Kaucher, on press fund, list No. 1	75
Feb. 4—Sec. St. Louis, 20 due stamps	2 00
Feb. 4—Sec. St. Louis, 40 constitutions	20
Feb. 4—From Ed. Heitzig, treasurer	2 95
Feb. 8—From Ed. Heitzig, treasurer, list No. 1	2 20
Feb. 14—Caudle, four constitutions	2
Feb. 18—Henry Knobel, on press fund, list No. 2	1 25
Feb. 26—Carl Weler, for Section Bevier, 12 due stamps	1 20
Total	$13 92

EXPENDED.

Feb. 2—P. O. stamps and cards	$0 20
Feb. 4—Sent to H. Kuhn, for due stamps	2 75
Feb. 4—Sent to H. Kuhn, for due stamps	25
Feb. 8—Programmes for masque ball	2 20
Feb. 4 and 5—P. O. stamps	20
Feb. 4—Ed. Heitzig, treasurer	2 95
Feb. 20—1 box envelopes	40
Feb. 24—To Ed. Teltzig, treasurer	3 50
Feb. 25—Card Board	15
Feb. 25—Pins and twine	10
Total	$12 70
Balance on hand	$1 22
In the hand of the treasurer Feb. 1, 1897	$5 00
Feb. 4—From L. C. Fry Sec	75
Feb. 4—From L. C. Fry Sec	2 20
Feb. 24—From L. C. Fry Sec	3 50
Total receipts	$11 45

EXPENDED.

Feb. 4—To L. C. Fry, secretary	$2 95
Feb. 8—To L. C. Fry, secretary	2 20
Total	$5 15
Balance in hand of treasurer	$6 30
In hand of secretary	1 22
Total cash on hand	$7 52

STAMP ACCOUNT.

On hand Feb. 1	29
Received from Henry Kuhn, Sec., Nat. Ex. Com., Feb. 4	55
Total	84

DISBURSED.

Feb. 4—To Section St. Louis	20
Feb. 26—Section Bevier	12
Total	32
On hand	52

CONSTITUTION ACCOUNT.

On hand Feb. 1	61
Feb. 4—Received from Henry Kuhn, Sec., Nat. Ex. Com	53
Total	114
Feb—Sold Candle	4
Feb—Sold Section 40	40
Total	44
On hand March 1, 1897	70

LEWIS C. FRY, Secy.

New Jersey.

HOBOKEN, March 8.—The German and American Sections of Hoboken held primaries Thursday, March 4, to nominate candidates for the coming spring election.

The following candidates were nominated:

For Mayor—John N. Dietrich. For Water Commissioner—George Bleasby, Third Ward.—For Alderman—Arthur T. Mende. For Tax Commissioner—Frank Schiemann.

Fourth Ward.—For Alderman—John Gross. For Tax Commissioners—Wm. Reimshicle, Gustave Ewald. For Commissioner of Appeals—Charles Abs.

We made no nominations in the First, Second and Fifth Wards, having no members residing in them, and also left out all nominations for Justice of Peace in all wards, and other nominations which we could not fill.

ARTHUR T. MENDE.

PATERSON, March 7.—Last Saturday the Socialists held a convention for the municipal campaign. The following ticket was nominated:

For Mayor—James Wilson.

For Aldermen—Of the First Ward, Meyer Bones; Second Ward, W. D. Miller; Third Ward, William Glanz; Fourth Ward, J. F. Brooks; Fifth Ward, Louis Maguet; Sixth Ward, Michael Butz; Seventh Ward, William Durkin.

For Freeholders—First Ward, Charles Fuller; Second Ward, Michael Butz; Third Ward, Pius Haefeli; Fourth Ward, James McCaren; Fifth Ward, William Miller; Sixth Ward, Henry Meyer; Seventh Ward, E. P. Romery; Eighth Ward, Albert Herzinger.

The convention adjourned with three cheers for the S. L. P.

New York.

N. Y. CITY.—Lectures on Socialism will take place on Sunday, March 14, 8 p. m., as follows:

At Stuyvesant Hall, 351 E. 17th street, between 1st and 2d avenues, C. H. Matchett will speak on "Aims of Socialism." At Hudson Building, corner of 37th street and 8th avenue, where the question, "Is Populism Progressive," be debated by Mr. Cody on the affirmative and L. A. Malkiel on the negative. At Webster Hall, 140th street and 3d avenue, where J. Allman will lecture on "The Ancient Art of Lying." At Cosmopolitan Hall, corner of Catherine street and East Broadway, T. Hickey will lecture on "Machinery." Meetings will also be held in the afternoon, at 3 p. m., at Workingmen's Educational Club, 206 East 86th street, where S. Berlin will lecture on "Competition or Co-operation?" and at Socialist Literary Society, 161 Monroe street, where H. Balkam will lecture on "American Trades Unions." These meetings are free to all.

L. ABELSON.

Pennsylvania.

FITTSBURG, March 8.—About 300 Polish workingmen turned out to listen to the sound principles of Socialism expounded by Comrade Fishler, the Polish agitator, Wednesday, the 3d, and Friday, the 5th inst. The audience listened to the speeches with great attention. The discussion that took place after each meeting showed that nobody had any objections against Socialism, with but one exception. This one very clearly set forth his objection thus: "Neither I nor my friends who are with me in the hall have anything against Socialism, but our priest told us that he will drive us out from the church if we join the party." Comrade Fishler had an opportunity to explain the relation between the capitalist society and the church, evidently to the satisfaction of everybody in the hall. Eighteen new members were enrolled, eighteen emblem buttons sold, and about twenty subscriptions for the Polish paper "Sila," taken.

If such an agitator as Comrade Fishler could stay in Pittsburg a month or two, undoubtedly one of the strongest Sections could be formed here. There is a lack of intelligent men able to do some work in the Section. Let us hope that by returning to New York, Comrade Fishler will stop in this city again. We noticed that he did not expect to find so many sympathizers in this city.

A.D. WEGMAN.

Virginia.

RICHMOND, Va., March 8.—Business meeting of Section Richmond, Va., every second Sunday, 2 p. m. Agitation meeting every fourth Sunday, 2 p. m., at 307 West Broad street. Special attention is called to our next meeting, Sunday, March 14, at 2 p. m. Matters of importance will be called for.

ORGANIZER.

Polish Comrades.

The National Convention of Polish speaking Socialists was held at the Philadelphia Labor Lyceum, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, February 26, 27 and 28. A. Zelcer, of New York, was president pro temp. and F. Kowalski, of Buffalo, secretary pro temp. Comrade Lecnard Fish welcomed the delegates in the name of Section Philadelphia, S. L. P. Delegate Fishler answered in the name of the assembled delegates. The following delegates were present:

A. Zelcer and W. Gajewski, of New York.

W. Kozlowski and A. Grabowski, of Philadelphia.

A. Oryll, of Trenton, N. J.

A. F. Kowalski, of Buffalo, N. Y.

S. Dobrowski, of Newark, N. J.

S. Sadowski, Jersey City, N. J.

Proxies:

R. Grabowski, of Cleveland.

W. Corwin, of Ansonia, Conn.

W. Fishler, of Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Jos. Grabowski, of Northampton, Mass.

E. F. Kowalski, of Shamokin, Pa.

Mrs. Reinstein repersents the Press Committee.

There was a well attended agitation meeting in the evening at Erdrich's hall, Ash and Brown street, Bridesburg, where several of the delegates made addresses. On Saturday and Sunday considerable business was transacted. Among them it was resolved to request every Pole to get his naturalization papers and to support the party journals. It was suggested to try and get the Polish Socialist Wittold Jottko, who is in Switzerland at present to come to the United States on an agitation tour; further to request the National Executive of the S. L. P. to bear one-half the expenses.

There is to be an Executive Board consisting of 7 members to be elected, they to have their seat in New York.

It was decided to have the party platform with the Polish supplement printed in Polish, and distributed among the members.

Also, it was resolved that there shall be a calendar issued which shall contain a review of all economic and political questions that have happened in the past year, and further to treat the campaign issues.

Special attention shall be given to the mining districts of Pensylvania and the cities of Chicago and Milwaukee, there being a great many Poles resident in those places.

The charges brought by the Cleveland comrades of the Polish Branch against the editor of the Polish party paper were examined and not concurred in, and a vote of confidence was tendered the editor. It was decided that all charges should be sent to the Executive of the Polish branches. This can be appealed from to the convention, and if not satisfactory to the National Executive of the S. L. P.

The Polish Socialists have at present 25 Branches and 500 members.

There was a big mass meeting on Sunday night, at 4th and Washington avenue, which was addressed by several of the delegates.

Prog. Clothing Cutters and Trimmers.

The above organization held its regular meeting on Thursday, March 4th, in the Labor Lyceum. The Ex. Board's recommendation in regard to holding our first anniversary on May 16th, caused a lengthy debate; it was decided to appoint a committee of five to make arrangements for same. The reports of delegates to D. A. 49 as well as the Clothing Trades Council were received, with instructions to the last named to keep their weather eye on all organizations joining the Council, especially the Children Jacket Makers; the $1.00 a month dues proposed by the Cutters was adopted for all affiliated L. A.'s of the Council. The shop reports show business pretty brisk. A long and very interesting discussion was gone into by all the members, in which some very clear points were brought out showing what very little interest the men in the craft displayed towards the economic movement, also of how the fakirs through their fleecing and ignorance of the labor movement have befogged and pulled the wool over the eyes of men in the clothing trade.

The Secretary.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to March 10th, 1897.

$4,025.

At the meeting of the Daily People Committee, held Sunday, the 20th of December, 1896, an important step was taken from which, if a daily Socialist paper is at all possible within a reasonable time, the consummation will be reached. The committee adopted the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, A daily PEOPLE has become an absolute necessity to counteract the false and falsified "news" that the capitalist press sets afloat, and to spread enlightenment in the ranks of the working class upon the Labor Question, and to prepare it to deal intelligently with the Social Revolution that is inevitable and is impending;

WHEREAS, The urgency of such a weapon of political and economic warfare in the English language against the plundering class of the capitalist is felt with increasing force, and the demand therefor becomes stronger by the day;

WHEREAS, The undertaking would result disastrously if not successfully put through;

WHEREAS, To make success certain, the paper must be able to survive two consecutive campaigns, that is to say, must appear daily during the period of at least thirteen consecutive months, absolutely independent, firm and uncompromising;

WHEREAS, The sum of not less than $50,000 in hand is necessary to safely launch such an undertaking;

WHEREAS, Despite the general sense of the necessity of a daily English organ of labor, the collections for it have hitherto been slight; and

WHEREAS, It is evident that, so long as the foundation of such a paper seems indefinitely distant, the contributions will continue slight, while, on the contrary, if its foundation can appear prompt and definite it is likely that ample funds could be promptly gathered; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a call be issued to the stalwarts, friends and sympathizers, to pledge themselves in the number of 5,000 to contribute each the sum of $10, payable between the issuing of this call and the 1st day of September, 1897;

RESOLVED, That, if by that date the sum of not less than $50,000 is cash in hands of the DAILY PEOPLE Committee, a DAILY PEOPLE be started forthwith on October 1st, 1897;

RESOLVED, That this call be printed in the party press of all languages; that subscription lists, headed with these resolutions, be issued to all the Sections and all applicants; and that the names of the subscribers, together with the sum subscribed by each and the installments in which the same is to be paid, be promptly notified to the Committee for publication from week to week.

Are there in the land 5,000 stalwarts equal to the emergency, ready to step up and to mount that needed and redoubtable battery of the Social Revolution in America—a DAILY PEOPLE?

Daily People Committee.
184 William St.,
N. Y. City.

Section New Britain, Conn	$50	payable September 1.
D. De Leon, N. Y	10	Cash, payment received from *Independent* for article on "Trusts."
S. H. N., San Diego, Cal	10	On demand.
Total this week	$70	

☞ Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

N. Y. PAINTERS

Meet Every Month, 8 P. M., at 138 and 140 East 57th Street.

(This paper will be mailed to every member free of charge by order of the organization, and will contain all such notices and information as are necessary.)

The last meeting of the New York Painters, on March 8th, was well attended and routine business dispatched in usual time.

The Committee on Amalgamation reported progress, and upon request gave a synopsis of all salient points upon which said committee had agreed to be propositions to be laid before the newly formed body for consideration.

The house ordered the necessary certified check as binding money to be made out by next meeting, a committee to make out the list and exact number of members to fill out the check with the proper sum as deposit.

The report of the delegate was read, containing his labors for the past week, giving the state of the labor field as found; it was received, and in the discussion following, instructions were given to cover several cases.

One candidate was admitted to membership.

One accident benefit was paid. Minor affairs took up the rest of the evening.

The Secretary.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the last meeting, Comrade D. DeLeob was chairman.

A committee representing the Shirtmakers' Union was granted the floor and attempted to substantiate alleged charges made against D. A. No. 2. The evidence adduced showed no facts, but merely suspicions imaginary and vague assertions. The Kneepantsmakers' Union which had also been subpenaed did not appear, but wrote that they had to work and would receive a committee. It was decided that as the charges were the same in both and the accused furnished no evidence of truth of their charges both unions be suspended and the charters revoked, for blackguardly conduct.

A request of the Painters and Paperhangers was referred to the Secretary.

The application of the "Arbeiter Fortbildungs Verein" of Philadelphia for a charter was not concurred in as the said organization on evidence presented was hostile to one of the official organs, "The Abendblatt," of the S. T. & L. A.

The United Hebrew Trades No. 5, of Philadelphia, were notified that no organization hostile to the "Abendblatt" should be permitted to meet with it. Surprise was expressed at the same time that the said D. A. could endorse a charter application of an organization whose position was such as that of the applicants.

Comrade Wehner reported that a D. A. named "Boston Trade & Labor Alliance D. A. No. 10" has been successfully organized.

Comrade G. Gaebler, Machinists' Union No. 12, of Philadelphia, desired information relative to a D. A. charter for the United German Trades. The secretary replied and his action was endorsed.

A charter application of the Prog. Bakers' Union, of Philadelphia, was grated.

D. A. No. 5 desired speakers for a mass meeting and desired Cahan, etc. They were informed of the acts of said Cahan and others against the best interests of the S. L. P. and the request was denied.

Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 4), Newark, reported that a majority of unions voted for L. Fischer as member of the G. E. B.

The Executive Board of the Ind. Bakers' Union requested that the former Bakers' Branch 3 be suspended. Referred to D. A. No. 1.

United Hebrew Trades (D. A. No. 2) reported its votes for a member of the G. E. B. as follows: F. W. Wilson, 15; L. Fischer, 5; M. Harkow, who withdrew, 3.

The "Central Council of the Clothing Industry" desired its $5 paid for a charter which the G. E. B. negatived returned, and the secretary was empowered to grand the request. They also desired aid in organizing the tailoring industry, which was granted.

The secretary was instructed to issue a call for a vote on the following propositions for the convention: "Shall the convention be held at Chicago, Ill., or Boston, Mass. Shall the same be held on the first Monday in July or the first Monday in August, 1897?"

The following applications for charters were granted: Mixed Trades District Alliance No. 11, Chicago, Ill.; Progressive Association of Machinists and Metal Workers, Chicago, Ill.; Carriage and Wagon Workers' Union No. 4, Chicago, Ill.

An application for a charter from the "Social Democratic Workingmens' Society," Philadelphia, was discussed, and they were informed to have same endorsed by D. A. 5.

Comrade J. Bade, secretary of Ind. Carpenters' Union No. 1, Cleveland, O., wrote that the Section of the S. L. P. is making surprising progress, but that the "pure and simple" are following the ancient worn-out path.

Comrade Chas. Boether, Paterson, N. J., wrote for constitution and information and stated the time had come to organize a L. A. there. The G. E. B. thought so also.

Comrade Peter Damm, Chicago, Ill., stated that our good cause was gaining ground daily. D. A. No. 11 had deputed himself and Comrade Baustian a committee to address the Cigarmakers. They urged them to join the S. T. & L. A., and Sam Gompers was roundly denounced by the meeting. The house went wild with enthusiasm over the S. T. & L. A. Comrade Baustian lectured on "New Trades Unionism" and urged his hearers to rally around the revolutionary banner of the S. T. & L. A. The Section of the S. L. P. unaminously decided to prohibit all members from agitating against the S. T. & L. A., and this mandate has been strictly obeyed by all. Since the party has been merged into one Section, seven new branches have been organized and there is a membership now of between 400 and 500 in good standing. Business is generally reported to be dull.

Comrade Wehner submitted a list of eligible halls for the convention, and also hotel rates.

Comrade Abbott, of Worchester, Mass., is doing good educational work among the shoe workers. The wages of the Brockton bakers, who formerly belonged to the S. T. & L. A., have been reduced since joining the Weissmann fold, although he has made this his personal stumping ground.

It was announced that Brewers' Union No. 14, belonging to the "Kurzenknabe St. Louis Union" is making it a special object to fight the Alliance bakers. They even go so far as to visit the baker bosses and agitate against the Alliance members. The opinion prevailed down East that Kurzenknabe, Bechtold, etc., voted for Bryan at the last election. A certain Paul Wilzig, of New York, was stumping Norwalk and Danbury in the interest of Kurzenknabe's Union.

A complaint of the Musical Prot. Alliance No. 1 was referred for investigation.

John Kikel, Bibb Co., Ala., wrote for information as a L. A. was to be organized.

Next meeting, Wednesday, March 17th, 8. p. m., at 64 E. 4th street.

D. A. No. 1.

CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.

Delegate J. B. Clayton, of the Silver Workers' Prot. Ass., was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.), and Delegate A. Carroll, of Ind. Bakers' Branch 2, was vice-chairman.

Credentials of the German Waiters' Union No. 1 for B. Korn were received, and the delegate seated.

A committee representing the Silk Ribbon Weavers of West Hoboken, N. J., was granted the floor and requested speakers for a mass meeting on Wednesday evening, 8 o'clock, at Casino Hall, cor. Spring and Shippe streets. The request was granted, and delegates C. Amadi, of the Furriers' Union, and G. Sieburg, of Section New York, S. L. P., were elected as such speakers.

The Arbitration Committee reported having called upon Mr. Kaith, of the Columbia Music Hall, East 125th street, and found that waiters were engaged on the per cent. system and that the said system would be enforced. The union declared the place closed to its members, and it is therefore a non-union hall.

A discussion ensued relative to the waiters' calling, and all unions are again urged to assist both the waiters and bartenders affiliated in the C. L. F. when arranging for a festival.

The arangement Committee for the Ninth Anniversary celebration of the C. L. F. reported that everything was in readiness for the festival on Saturday, March 13th, at the New York Labor Lyceum, 64 E. 4th street. D. A.'s No. 2, 3, 4 and 49 have been invited. Invitations have also been extended to individual members of the labor movement, who have been steadfast supporters of the C. L. F. and agitators for the S. T. & L. A. Mrs. Waldinger will present the banner won by the Ale & Porter Union No. 1 in its name to the C. L. F.

Eccentric Engineers No. 3 reported having held a well attended meeting. They voted for F. W. Wilson as member to the G. E. B., and for Boston as the city to hold the S. T. & L. A. convention.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 gained several new members.

Furriers' Union again called attention to the special meeting this Saturday, at which it will be decided to be represented at the London Conference by a delegate or not.

Empire City Lodge Machinists' will hold an important meeting this Wednesday, at 64 E. 4th street. All members should attend.

Int. Pianomakers' Union reported that its Branches are voting on the nominee for the G. E. B., and the city for the S. T. & L. A. convention.

All unions were urged to settle the tickets for the "N. Y. Volks-Zeitung" and "Arbeiter Zeitung" festivals at once.

Mass Meeting of Bakers' Alliance S. T. & L. A.

A mass meeting of the Boston Bakers will be held on Sunday, March 14, 10 a. m., at Dexter Hall, 937 Washington street, under the auspices of Bakers and Confectioners' Progressive Unions 1 and 2, Local Alliance 2, of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, to which all friends of the alliance are invited. Daniel De Leon, Mrs. Martha Moore Avery and other speakers will address the meeting on new trades unionism.

Per order, DISTRICT ALLIANCE 8.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1, S. T. & L. A., 1028.

The above organization is the only musical union that is connected with the S. T. & L. A., and with no other labor body. It is composed of skilled musicians, competent to perform any branch of the musical business, and is connected with D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., and is represented by Mr. Joseph S. Krinks, delegate. Its members are not allowed to connect themselves with any musical organization that is not in the interest of the Socialist movement. The advertisement appears to-day in another column.

To Irish Comrades.

There has now been received from Dublin from the Irish Socialist Republican party a small supply of the following described matter:

Pamphlet (15 pages) entitled "The Rights of Ireland and the Faith of a Felon," by James Fintan Lalor, reprinted from the "Irish Felon" newspaper, suppressed July, 1848.

Membership card of the Irish Socialist Republican party. This is of a beautiful green, has printed on it some agitation matter, and will make a handsome souvenir and be useful to agitators.

These pamphlets and cards can be obtained at 5 cents each from

HENRY KUHN,
184 William street, New York.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY, SECTION NEW YORK.

26th Anniversary —OF THE— 26th Anniversary

PARIS COMMUNE

on SUNDAY, March 21st, 1897, 8 o'clock P. M., at

GERMANIA ASSEMBLY ROOMS, 291–293 Bowery.

Speeches in English and German by prominent speakers. Illustrated Lecture with the aid of a stereopticon, showing views of the striking incidences during the commune troubles by M. Hillkowitz. The Socialist Liedertafel will entertain with appropriate songs.

Admission 10 cents a person. 240

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trade Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of $5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meeting.

Branch 1 (American) S. L. P. Discussion meeting every first Friday. Business meeting every 3rd Friday at 64 East 4th Str. Lectures every Sunday 8 P. M. at Stuyvesant Hall, 17th Str., and Hudson Building, 37th St. and 8th Ave. 222

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Fred. 238

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 239

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohemian), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth street, meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1327 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m. 26

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.
273 Secretary: HENRY ZINCK.

German Waiters' Union of New York, Office: 35b Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at the same Hall. 234

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1028, D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Woll, corr. Secy., Residence, 153 E. 4th St. 241

Section Essex [illegible] meets the first Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 189

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 205–233 East 53rd street, New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM. ARBETAREN.

Socialist Science Club. Meets at Webster Hall, 140th street and 3rd avenue, every 1st and 3rd Friday at 8 P. M. Also Free Lecture, every Sunday night, 7.30 P. M., preceded by entertainment at same Hall.

Upholsterers Union of New York and Vicinity. Meets 2d and 4th Tuesdays evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary, Carl Anders, 22 East 3rd street.

WORKMEN'S

Furniture Fire Insurance.

Organized 1872. Membership 16,000.

Main Organization for New York and Vicinity.

OFFICE: 64 E. 4th St. OFFICE HOURS, daily, except Sundays and Holy days, from 1 to 9 o'clock P. M.

BRANCHES: Yonkers, Troy, Binghamton, Gloversville, Elmira, N. Y.
Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, South River New Jersey.
Boston, Holyoke, Mass.
New Haven, Conn.
Luzern, Pa. 239

Arbeiter Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse für die Ver. Staaten von Amerika.

WORKMEN'S

Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The above society was founded in the year 1884 by workingmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (at present composed of 129 local branches with more than 13,400 male members) is rapidly increasing among workingmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workingmen between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches, upon payment of a deposit of $4.00 for the first class and $3.00 for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a sick benefit of $9.00 for 40 weeks and of $4.50 for another 40 weeks wether continuous or with interruption. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time $6.00 and $3.00 respectively. A burial benefit of $250.00 is granted for every member, and the wives and unmarried daughters of members between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit for $1.00. Monthly taxes are levied according to expenditures. In cities and towns where no branch exists, a new branch can be formed by 20 workingmen in good health, and men adhering to the above named principles are invited to do so.

Address all communications to HENRY STAHL, Financial Secretary, 25—27 3rd Ave., Room 58, New York City.

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349–355 Willoughby Ave.
(Formerly 61—63 Myrtle Street.)
Meeting Rooms, Large Hall for Mass Meetings.
Books open for Balls and Picnics.
WE NEVER PATRONIZE YOUR OWN HOME

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at $1.25 per 1,000 or $1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th Street, New York.